

A-131

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE

DOS, ARMY
reviews
completed.

EXCLUSIVE

OK

EYES

T O P S E C R E T 220517Z OCT 72 SENSITIVE EXCLUSIVELY EYES
ONLY VIA BUNKER CHANNELS
FROM: GENERAL HAIG
TO : WINSTON LORD FOR HENRY A. KISSINGER
CITE: WHS2273

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

TO HAK 81

OCTOBER 21, 1972

1. I JUST FINISHED TALKING TO DOBRYNIN WHO WAS VERY DEFENSIVE ABOUT THE DEBORCHGRAVE LEAK AND PROMISED TO CABLE MOSCOW IMMEDIATELY ABOUT THIS PROBLEM. HE SEEMED RELIEVED BY MY STATEMENT THAT WE STILL HOPE TO MEET THE SCHEDULE WITH THE 48 HOUR DELAY, BUT I POINTED OUT THAT THERE ARE MANY DIFFICULTIES AND WE CANNOT HAVE A REPEAT OF THE 1968 SITUATION. I TOLD HIM THAT IF THEY WISHED TO BE HELPFUL THEY SHOULD ALSO MAKE THIS CLEAR TO HANOI. HANOI MUST UNDERSTAND THAT THEY MUST BE FLEXIBLE AND PATIENT AND THAT THIS IS A VERY DIFFICULT, DELICATE AND COMPLEX PROCESS IN WHICH WE ARE ENGAGED.

2. WE ARE PREPARED TO PROCEED WITH THE ORIGINAL GAME PLAN MODIFIED TO ADD 48 HOURS BUT WE WILL AWAIT FINAL WORD FROM YOU THAT AGREEMENT IS LOCKED. THE FIRST STEP WOULD INVOLVE STOPPING AIR ACTIVITY ABOVE THE 20TH PARALLEL, FOLLOWED BY THE CEASING OF ALL BOMBING, SHORE BOMBARDMENT AND MINING OF THE NORTH WITH INSTRUCTIONS FOR BOTH THESE SEQUENTIAL STEPS DISSEMINATED BEFORE NOON WASHINGTON TIME ON SUNDAY. WITH YOUR APPROVAL I WILL ISSUE THESE INSTRUCTIONS TO DOD AND WILL ALSO ALERT THEM TO THE POSSIBILITY OF YOUR TUESDAY FLIGHT.

3. PLEASE LET ME KNOW WHEN WE CAN SAFELY INFORM PRC AND USSR THAT AGREEMENT APPEARS LOCKED AND YOU ARE PROCEEDING WITH AGREED SCENARIO.

4. ALEX JOHNSON IS ANXIOUS TO GET MOVING ON CONTACTING CANADIANS AND INDONESIANS. PLEASE ADVISE WHEN HE CAN PROCEED, WITH NECESSARY CAVEATS.

5. SECRETARY LAIRD HAS SIGNED A DIRECTIVE AND LETTER OF INSTRUCTIONS SETTING UP GENERAL ABRAMS AS THE EXECUTIVE AGENT FOR THE CRASH INPUT OF MATERIAL AND EXTRACTION OF US FORCES FROM SOUTH VIETNAM. THESE INSTRUCTIONS WOULD BE ISSUED ON A SECURE/CLOSE HOLD BASIS TO THE COMMANDERS CONCERNED. WITH YOUR APPROVAL I WILL AUTHORIZE ITS RELEASE ONCE YOU DEPART FOR THE FINAL LEG.

WARM REGARDS.

EYES

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